



LARC



Volume 48, Number 4

April 2008

AARA 2008 HAMFEST “A SUCCESS”!



Roland NA5Q (r) presenting Cecil Harper WD5CQG (l) the Grand Prize - Icom 7000.

I believe this has been a very successful hamfest. I can't ever remember the civic center parking lot so full that we had them parking in the grass and in back of the building. Attendance appears to be a little above last year, but this year they spent money.

I want to give a big “**Thank You**” to all the club members that assisted in all facets of the hamfest. It was a pleasure to see so many club members offering assistance. There were many new club members offering to help, that is very good.

A special Big Thank You goes to Rick N5RLM and Joy N5YCS for their FB handling of the money, registration, door prizes and vendor/swap table assignments. You just cannot imagine how much that takes a load off of the chairperson of this hamfest.

In talking to the dealers - sales were so- so, but the assistance with tables and moving merchandise into and out the building was spectacular (many stated they will be back). Talking to the hamfest attendees - good time, good food, good assistance and good friendship.

Thanks again!

Oh, I almost forgot. The crawfish prices were lower than expected by 50 cents, so I was able to serve 4-5 lbs per serving and the club still made money. The comments on the crawfish seasoning and size were all positive.

Roland NA5Q
Hamfest Chairperson 2008

Second Grand Prize Winner - Icom 2200H - Pat Sonnier W5WMU, Lafayette
Third Grand Prize Winner - Icom V8 Sport - Bill Garvey WB5LYB—Leesville
Fox Hunt Winner -100 raffle tickets -Dags Whittemore KE5CGN, Lafayette

President's Message

Well, looks like the hamfest was an overwhelming success this year, in spite of all of our worries about the date and time. Roland nearly sold out of all of the tables, we nearly sold all of the raffle tickets, and I think everyone had a great time. A big thanks goes out to all of those that helped make it special! I felt that the format worked quite well and I'd suggest to the next chairman, that we continue the same venue. Of course I did get plenty of questions about the band, but did explain that Roland felt it wasn't proper to hold it on “Good Friday”. There's always next year.

The board and I will be having our budgetary meeting at a time and date to be determined. I'll be contacting each of the board members and we'll settle on a time to get together that meets everyone's needs. I'll be calling on Roland for his help in the balancing of the budget, but hopefully Joy's numbers from the hamfest will be as outstanding as the event itself. All club members are free to join in with the board for its meeting.

I've talked with John on several occasions and he's been keeping on top of the new trailer. Big thanks to John! It seems as though it will be ready for field day, which is our next big event coming up. Our next meeting is the post hamfest banquet, and its going to be at the regular time at the Red Cross building. So don't forget your covered dishes and many thanks to Ms. Linda for taking over during Ms. Joy and Rick's absence. We'll have a recap of the hamfest and that's about it. After that it'll be time to start looking forward to Field Day. Let me know what you want for Field Day. It's your club, it's your Field Day, it's your decisions.

73's

Charlie KI5XP

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday April 3, 2008 - 7 PM
Red Cross Building - 101 N. Pat St.
VE Testing @ 6:00 PM - Door Prizes

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Northeast LA Regional Ham RadioFest
Saturday, April 26th 2008
Monroe, LA

Local 2-Meter Nets

Sunday

OAARA Net 7:00 PM
147.150 pl 103.5 Opelousas, LA

Monday

AARA Net 7:00 PM
146.820 Lafayette, LA
Acadia Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.240 pl 127.3 Crowley, LA

Tuesday

Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM
145.370 - 600 PL 103.5
YL/XYL / Filly Net 7:00 PM
146.820

Wednesday

Vermillion Parish ARES Net 8:00 PM
147.060 Abbeville, LA

Friday

HEAL Net 1st & 3rd Fridays Only
146.820 Lafayette, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2008-2009

President - Charlie Morrison KI5XP
ki5xp@w5ddl.org

Vice Pres - Dick Melcher WA6MDI

Secretary - Randy Castille N5MLJ

Treasurer - Joy Breaux N5YCS

BOARD MEMBERS

John Martin KA5BSE

Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF

Glenn Breaux KD5NVC

Public Relations Officer

Dagmar Whittemore KE5CGN

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The **LARC** is published monthly by the:
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P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1st Thursday of
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the
American Red Cross Building
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

April General Meeting

The April 3 (Thursday) General Meeting of the AARA will be held at the Red Cross building at 7:00 PM. This will be our "**Hamfest Banquet**", so you are asked to bring a "covered dish with food - hi hi". The club will furnish the main course and soft drinks.

During the meeting, Roland NA5Q - Hamfest Chairperson, will give a report if he is present, if not he will do so at the May meeting. Whatever, I think the report will be positive. Some other topics are on the agenda.

This meeting will also hold a surprise to one of our members. This is the time of the year that a drawing will be held for the Icom V8 Sport 2 meter handi-talkie that will be given away. In order to be eligible to win, you must be a paid member and attend the General Meetings during the past year. Each time you attend the meeting, you get one chance to win. Randy N5MLJ our club secretary keeps a list from the sign-in roster and puts your name in a hat and the lucky winner is drawn. This has been a ongoing event for the last several years to stimulate attendance at the general meetings. Also Randy has volunteered to handle the door prize drawings at the meetings until someone else agrees to do it on a permanent basis.

Some of the other topics slated are up coming Field Day plans.

BTW, all those who ordered the Arrow antennas/duplexers and have not received theirs, you may pick them up at this meeting.

Bring a Covered Dish Door Prizes



Technician Class at the CMA

Shown from left to right: Roland Guidry NA5Q (instructor), Rick Breaux N5RLM (instructor), Harold Beckler (student), Kirk Crane (student), Irma Bookter (student), and James Palmer III AE5AV (instructor).

The first session was held on March 27th at 6:00 PM with three more sessions to follow on the next three Thursday nights.



Mark your calendars to attend the Northeast Louisiana Regional Ham RadioFest on Saturday, April 26th, 2008. Come enjoy commercial dealers, forums, food and beverages, fellowship, door prizes and much more...

Hours:

* Doors will open to the public at 8:00 a.m. Saturday and run through mid afternoon.

* Set-up: Friday, April 25th from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Admission & Prize Tickets:

* Admission is \$5, which gives you a chance at the Grand Prizes.

* Additional prize tickets will be available for purchase (1 for \$1.00 or 6 for \$5.00).

VE Testing:

* Testing for new licenses or upgrades begins at 9:00 a.m

Tables:

* Tables are \$10 each; Electricity is an additional \$10.

* Please contact us early to reserve your table.

* You may also reserve by mail at:

Table Sales
P.O. Box 1871
West Monroe, LA 71294

R. V. Parking:

* R.V. Parking is available, but limited. The facility charges \$16.00 for RV sites.

On-site dealers include:

* MFJ Enterprises

* The Sign Man of Baton Rouge (Exclusive Sign and Badge Dealer)

* Palmetto Antennas

* More to be announced soon, please continue to check back for updates.

Directions:

* Take Garrett road exit off I-20 (exit 120), heading South.

* At the first light, take a left then head East onto Frontage Road.

* Proceed approx. 1 mile and the Barak Shrine Temple will be on the Right.

* We have plenty of FREE car parking, but a limited number of RV & trailer hookups, for which the facility charges \$16 per night.

Talk-In:

* Talk-in will be handled on the 146.85 repeater.

Web-site:

* <http://www.ares-nela.org/hamfest/>



AARA's New Tower and Trailer

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. is in the process of having a custom tower and trailer being built by *Thib's Trailers* in Duson, LA.. This is to replace our old tower and trailer that had been used over the years and deemed to be un-manageable by our crew. It was sold and the monies we received from the sale will go into the

one shown in stages of manufacturing in the above photos.

This tower and trailer can be towed by a small pickup truck and erected almost anywhere by one person in about 30 minutes. It has outriggers that extend to about 15 feet square with jacks that will make it perfectly level.

If by any chance the tower and

the trailer are ready before the meeting Thursday April 3rd, you may get to see it set up for a demonstration, if not, it will be used for Field Day.

Most think this is a worthwhile project that will turn a few heads on some of our events. Thanks to John KA5BSE for design.

Join Ham friends for a Fun Cruise!



A group of Hams who love to cruise, have put together a 4 day cruise to Mexico leaving New Orleans January 15, 2009 and would like to invite all Hams, their families and friends to join us. The ship is **Carnival Cruise Line's FANTASY**, it leaves New Orleans Thursday Jan 15th and will return to New Orleans Monday morning January 19th after 2 days at sea and a day in Cozumel, Mexico.

The ship offers all the food you can eat, great entertainment, time to just relax and enjoy some time off after the busy holidays, and lots of Hams to talk radio with!

Inside cabin cost is \$315.00 per person based on two in a cabin. Outside (Ocean view) cabin is \$365.00 per person based on two to a cabin and a balcony cabin is \$725.00 per person, two in the cabin. Optional gratuities are \$40.00 per person and optional insurance is \$49.00 per person.

A deposit of \$25.00 per person will hold your cabin and is due soon. A second deposit of \$150.00 will be due September 10th and the final payment will be due November 10th, 2008.

A passport or the new, less expensive passport card is **REQUIRED** for this trip.

Please contact Katie Melcher - KA6RKI for more information or to answer any questions.

Katie can be reached at: Avenues to Travel, 4 DeGaulle Square, Lafayette LA 337-231-5656 or Katie@avenues2travel.com.

April 2008 Special Events & Contests

April 5	K5DAK —819 Steam Locomotive and Museum, Pine Bluff, AR.
April 11 & 12	W1MGY —96th anniversary of the Titanic voyage.
April 11—13	K4S —Annual Venice Sharks Tooth Festival.
April 12	NI6IW —USS Midway CV-41 Radio Room, Commemorating the Centennial of the Great White Fleet to San Diego in 1908.
April 12—14	W0S —96th anniversary of the Titanic disaster.
April 18	NU1AW —World Amateur Radio Day.
April 19	K6SYC —33rd year of the Long Beach Grand Prix.
April 19 & 20	W8V —5 Covered Bridges in Vinton County, Ohio.
April 24—26	K5P —USPSA Handgun Nationals.
April 26	N2MO —International Marconi Day, Award Station.

These are just a few of the Special Events & Contests Check QST or ARRL Website for details and QSL information.



4/06	ARNOLD	KE5JXC
4/13	DAVE	N4ELM



Looks like April is not a good month for birthdays. hi hi.

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership applications, this is why some may not be on the list.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The AARA would like to welcome the following new members.

JOHN TATE	KX5JT
BUTCH HANKS	K5GLD
BRANDON HEBERT	KE5TJT
BARBARA FAIN	W5BCF

If you hear these persons on the air, please give them your own "personal" welcome to our area.

**HELP KEEP AMATEUR
RADIO ALIVE IN ACADIANA!**

Hamfest 2008 VE Test Session Results

Michael W. Taboada, KE5ELP, Baton Rouge, upgraded from Technician to Extra.

John F. Champagne, KE5LVY, Baton Rouge, upgraded from Technician to General.

Jeffrey C. Lyons, Lafayette, passed the Technician now awaiting his call.

Marvin Wingfield, N5WIM, New Iberia, upgraded from Technician to Extra.

Kathy D. Landry, KZ5KAT, Hammond, upgraded from General to Extra.

Ashton E. Langlinais, KE5KEQ, Lafayette, upgraded from Technician to General.

Robert S. DeHart, Baton Rouge, passed element 2 and element 3 to earn his General now has call KE5TPY.

Daniel R. Chasuk, Passed element 2 and element 3 to earn his General now has call KE5TPV.

Bryan Haviland, KE5NTY, Pineville, upgraded from Technician to General.

Billy R. Hanks, Merryville, passed element 2 and element 3 to earn his General now has call KE5TPX.

David J. Pierce, Sunset, passed element 2 and element 3 to earn his General. Some of you will remember Dave as KE5FZ. He had let his license expire and is getting back into the hobby with new call KE5TPW.

The VE's for this session were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH, Albert Fabacher KF5WP, Greg Dolan K5LFT, Greg Lavigne AD5HA, John Mussey N5FJ, Terry Partigianoni W5TMP, Earl Morrow W5ELM, and Ray Arceneaux N5LRZ

73

Danny K5ARH

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March Meeting VE Test Results

Here are the results from the March 6 meeting test session.

Charles D Jacks, KE5TFC from Morse, LA upgraded to General.

Joe D Fain, Sr., W5XJF from Lafayette upgraded to General.

Scott E Laughlin, from Denham Springs, LA passed the Technician and received the call KE5TJS.

Brandon J Hebert, from Lafayette passed the Technician and General and now has the call KE5TJT.

The VE's were:

Danny Griffith K5ARH, Albert Fabacher KF5WP, Greg Dolan K5LFT, Rick Breaux N5RLM, Roland Guidry NA5Q, Charlie Morrison KI5XP

73 Danny K5ARH

2008 Hamfest Picture Gallery

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/events/hamfest2008>

HEAL NET

Be sure to check in on the HEAL NET every 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at 1:00 PM local time on the 146.820 repeater in Lafayette. Larry KE5KJD is our Net Control Station at this time but will appreciate anyone wising to help out as NCS on occasions.

February HEAL Net Report

DATE:	Medical Personnel	Guest	Medical Facilities	Time / Traffic
3/07/08	10	8	6	16 min/1
3/21/08	1	4	1	6 min/0

Membership Dues

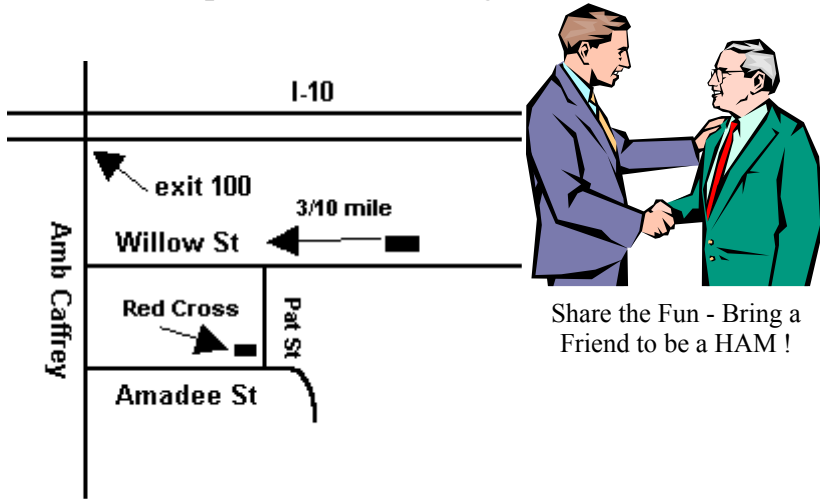
If you have not paid your 2008-2009 membership dues, now is the time to do so.

Remember, dues help keep the repeaters up and running, maintenance on AMOS and trailer, refreshments at the meetings & club functions and numerous other things. Membership also gets you on a "members only" e-mail and website area and voting privileges on club business.

You can pay your dues at the next meeting or visit our website and download a application form.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



AARA GENERAL MEETING
Thursday April 3, 2008—7:00 PM
VE Testing at 6:00 PM
Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA
Lunch Bunch 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA

COMPLEMENTARY
ISSUE

Marvelous Mini - Meatloaves

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Pound extra lean ground beef | 1 Box of Stove Top Stuffing |
| 1 Cup of water | Salsa (your favorite) |

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Mix beef, stuffing and water together until well blended. Press mix into 8 muffin cups sprayed with cooking spray, make an indentation well into center of each muffin cup mix with spoon. Spoon the salsa into the wells of each meatloaf.

Bake for 30 to 35 minutes, add grated cheddar cheese the last five minutes.

Goes good with mashed potatoes and veggies.

Submit your favorite recipes to:

Herman KN5GRK at:
kn5grk@bellsouth.net



FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries - including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or ulscmm@fcc.gov. Web site:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is: Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg PA 17325-7245